

San Joaquin Valley State Implementation Plan Development

The San Joaquin Valley violates the federal ozone air quality standard. The Clean Air Act requires areas that violate national air quality standards to develop State Implementation Plans, or SIPs. The SIP defines how and when the area will meet the various standards. The basic SIP building blocks are air quality data, emission inventories, air quality modeling, and control strategies.

Air Quality Data The California Air Resources Board (ARB) and local air districts compile air quality data from monitoring stations throughout California. The data are used in the SIP to evaluate the nature and severity of the air quality problems in the region and to assess air quality trends.

Emission Inventories Emission inventories are a cataloging and quantification of all the known sources of pollution in a region. ARB estimates emission from cars, trucks, off-road equipment, and consumer products. Local air districts provide estimates for emissions from local businesses. The Department of Pesticide Regulation provides estimates of pesticide emissions. All of these are projected forward to estimate the emissions in the specified attainment year.

Air Quality Modeling Air quality modeling ties air quality monitoring data information and emission inventory data with information on meteorology and atmospheric chemistry to provide the relationship between emissions and air quality. The modeling provides an estimate of how much the SIP must reduce emissions to meet air quality standards.

Control Strategies Lastly, the SIP identifies any new control measures needed to provide the necessary emission reductions. The SIP must consider technical feasibility and cost-effectiveness, and it must include a measure development and implementation schedule. The emission reductions from the measures are included in a final “controlled” emission inventory that is used with the air quality model to demonstrate that the region will attain the standard with the proposed strategy.

San Joaquin Valley SIP Deadline The San Joaquin Valley air district has determined that it cannot reach the federal ozone air quality standard by the end of 2005. As a result, it has not submitted a SIP to meet that date. In September 2003, the air district will make a formal decision to request a reclassification to extreme nonattainment for ozone, giving it a 2010 deadline. To avoid federal sanctions (increased emission offset requirements, withholding of federal transportation funds, and federal takeover of the air district’s ozone program) for

not submitting a 2005 SIP, the district must adopt a 2010 SIP by December 2003. SIP development is underway.

Air Quality Monitoring: Ambient monitoring is ongoing. Intensive episodic monitoring to support SIP modeling was done in 2000

Emission Inventory: Complete (Some final updates pending)

Air Quality Modeling: Underway (Preliminary modeling is complete, updated carrying capacity in June 2003, final modeling finished in September)

Control Strategy Development: Underway (New air district measures through 2005 are complete, post 2005 local measures development is underway. ARB statewide measure development is underway: final workshops held in April 2003, final draft of statewide measures available on May 12, 2003, ARB Board hearing scheduled for September 2003)

San Joaquin Valley Adoption Schedule

Control Strategy Concepts	June
Draft Plan	August
Final Plan	October
San Joaquin Valley Board Adoption	December